

to fix this small typo. I am not offering any new language to the amendment that was offered. But the amendment that was offered was cleared by the Parliamentarian as being different from what is in the bill.

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, further reserving the right to object, I think it is obvious that what the gentleman is doing. It is not the exact same language, but I would dare say that the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) could not explain the significant difference between his amendment and what is currently in the bill.

And I would just go on to say that I think that what the gentleman is doing here is replacing the exact same language and it is a great waste of our time.

Mr. Chairman, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The CHAIRMAN. The amendment is modified.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN), as modified.

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 517, further proceedings on the amendment offered by gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. LARGENT

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment printed in House Report 105-679 offered by Mr. LARGENT:

Page 58, insert after line 10 the following:

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 517, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT) and a Member opposed each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT).

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, if we can have an agreement that the time of the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT) would be 15 minutes, the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY) would be 10 minutes, and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARR) would be 10 minutes, and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY) will be 30 minutes equally divided between the two sides, if the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN) would agree to that, we could proceed and save a lot of time.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, I would agree with all of the preceding except for the last item. There are so many speakers on the Armeley amendment, I wonder if the gentleman would consider, say, 50 minutes?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Reclaiming my time, I will do anything to cut time, so I would do that.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Chairman, with that modification, we would have no objection on this side.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TIAHRT) having assumed the chair, Mr. CAMP, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4380) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

#### LIMITING FURTHER AMENDMENTS AND DEBATE IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4380, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during the further consideration of H.R. 4380 in the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to H. Res. 517, no amendment shall be in order thereto except for the following amendments, which shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment or to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole, and shall be debatable for the time specified, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and a Member opposed thereto:

Mr. LARGENT, made in order under the rule for 15 minutes;

Mr. BILBRAY, made in order under the rule for 10 minutes;

Mr. BARR of Georgia regarding ballot initiative and the Controlled Substances Act for 10 minutes; and Mr. ARMEY made in order under the rule for 50 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIAHRT). Pursuant to House Resolution 517 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4380.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4380) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, with Mr. CAMP in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole House rose earlier today, pending was amendment No. 2 offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT).

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT) and a Member opposed each will control 7½ minutes.

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BLILEY), chairman of the Adoption Caucus here at the U.S. House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on Commerce.

(Mr. BLILEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

First of all, let me say this: I rise in support of the amendment of the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT). It has nothing to do with gender. It has everything to do with children.

My wife and I are proud parents of two adoptive children. But when they have two people, as is currently under the law in the District, who have no contract between them come together and petition and obtain a child through adoption, what are the rights of the child? The people decide that they no longer want to be together. What happens to the child? What rights does the child have?

That is a very, very serious thing. It has nothing to do with gender. It has nothing to do with whether single people adopt children or whether two women or two men. The thing is that there is no contract, there is nothing there legally to protect this child.

Remember this, the child may have been in a foster home. He has already been through possibly a traumatic experience. Now they are going to put him in another traumatic experience or her in another traumatic experience because there is nothing in the law to say what happens. What if one of the parents decides to go to California, another one is to go to Maine? What do you do?

I think it was never intended when the adoption laws were adopted. They just assumed that there were couples who would do the adoption, but times change.

I think the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LARGENT) has a very good amendment, and I hope my colleagues would support it.